

AMERICAN PIONEER.

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NO. VII.

OUR FRONTISPIECE,

For this month, was furnished to us by an able, industrious, and ingenious correspondent, Jno. W. Van Cleve. He does his work up in the right way to help us along, by furnishing us with the plates of his drawings ready for the press. He has now concluded his father's memoranda, the remainder of which we give in this number, and he has given us a sketch of the adventures of colonel Robert Patterson. We are allowed by him to hope for much other interesting matter, which his industry and care has treasured up, concerning the settlement of the western country.

Thinking that the drawing of the encampment would be more useful with a further account of it, we sent a copy of it to our soldier-correspondent, George Will, esq., who sent us the following letter. We hope his health is recovered, and that shortly he will be able to lay before our readers, his "more full account of our Indian war."

MR. WILL'S LETTER.

J. S. WILLIAMS, Esq.

Adelphi, April 12th, 1843.

Dear Sir—Since the 17th of March I have been confined to my room, the greater part of the time to my bed, which will account for my not answering your letter of the 27th. Yours of the 5th inst. is just received, and, as you appear anxious that I should answer the queries proposed in yours of the 27th ult., I have left my bed and commenced writing, in hopes I may be enabled to finish by Saturday morning, when the mail leaves.

The drawing is a tolerably good representation of general Wayne's encampment at Greenville during our stay there, from September, 1793, until after the treaty of 1795; but we could not always find ground suitable on our daily march to form our encampment just in that form; when the ground and other circumstances admitted we generally formed our camp on that plan. On a march we generally halted early in the afternoon, say two or three o'clock; the quarter-masters of the several sub-legions, with the quarter-master-general, surveyor, and engineer, went ahead with the front guard, selected the ground, laid off the encampment, and marked the bounds of

each sub-legion, so that when the army arrived, the troops proceeded to pitch their tents. After this was done each company had to commence fortifying twenty feet in front of the company. This was done by cutting down timber, trimming off the limbs, and putting up from two to four logs high, according to the timber; so that in one hour from the commencement a complete breast-work was formed around the whole encampment. There were no gates—a few light logs were put up something in the form of bars. The picket guards consisted sometimes of a captain, one subaltern, one sergeant, two corporals, and from thirty-six to forty-eight privates; some of them only of a subaltern, one sergeant, one corporal, and from twenty-one to thirty-six privates. These were generally detailed every morning and were numbered from one to eight, or as many as necessary, (on the campaign we generally had eight,) so that when the army halted in the evening, each guard took its station at the place selected by the quarter-master, say three hundred yards from the encampment, divided his men into three reliefs, first, second, and third; the first relief he sent out with his sergeant or corporal, placed his sentinels about one hundred yards apart, so that in half an hour from the time the army halted, a complete chain of sentinels was formed around the whole encampment. While the first relief were out, which was two hours, the second and third were employed in cutting down timber and making breast-works to defend themselves in case of an attack. After the first relief had been on sentinel two hours, the second relief went on and stood their two hours, then the third relief, and then the first, and so on until morning. The front guard generally took their station half a mile in advance, the rear guard half a mile in the rear of the army; this was done for the purpose of keeping the enemy from making a sudden attack on the main body of the army. The front and rear guards never consisted of less than a whole company, sometimes more. It was intended that, should the enemy make an attack in front, this guard should maintain its position until the main army could have time to form and come to their assistance. This was the case on the 20th August, 1794, but the front guard were overpowered and obliged to retreat.

I hope, dear sir, that the foregoing may be of some service to you; I would have transcribed and wrote more plainly, but I really have wrote with great pain, and hope you will be able to read it. If I should be restored to health again, I will try and give you a more full account of our Indian war. Yours, respectfully, &c.

Geo. Will

EXTRACTS FROM B. VAN CLEVE'S MEMORANDA.

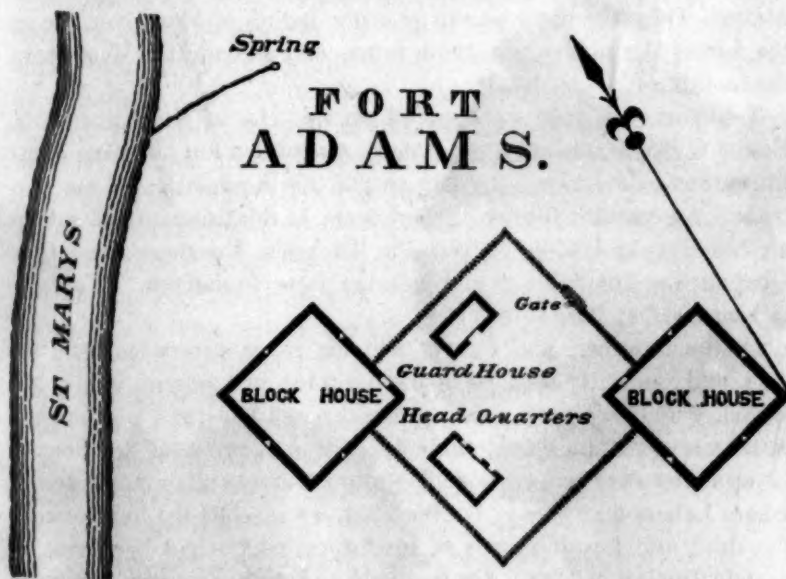
(Continued from page 224.)

FORT WAYNE.

SEPTEMBER 6, 1794.—Again entered into the contractor's employ and started with a drove of cattle to supply the army. Went to Mill creek, where we continued next day.

September 8.—Reached Fort Hamilton, and remained until the 21st, by which time we had received several additional droves. Took the whole, amounting to four hundred and sixty bullocks, to Fort Recovery, where we arrived on the evening of the 24th. There we met major Price, who had been sent on with a select corps of mounted volunteers, to hurry on some beef. I took one hundred and twenty bullocks and started with him next morning and arrived in camp on the 27th, and found the army without beef or salt. The troops ate ten beeves a day, issued regularly in rations, and the Kentucky militia sometimes destroyed as many more. This gave our party considerable trouble and occasioned some hard swearing by general Wayne, to the great terror of the commissary.

We remained until the 27th of October, when the fort was finished and called Fort Wayne. Four or five companies marched into it, and the cannon and small arms were fired on the occasion, in token of our



Plan of Fort Adams, built by general Wayne on the St. Mary's, drawn by B. Van Cleve in 1794.

success in the late battle and of our taking possession of the enemy's country. The residue of the army on the same day marched for winter quarters, taking general Harmar's old trace up the St. Mary's.

October 30.—The army being at a short distance from Fort Adams, I took six beeves and three sheep, and delivered them to the commandant of the post. We encamped at Kettletown or Girty's-town, fifty-five miles from Fort Wayne and thirty-six from Greenville. We remained there on the 31st.

November 1.—Came on Hartshorn's road to within sixteen miles of Greenville.

November 2.—Arrived at Greenville.

HAMILTON.

December 17th, 1794.—Israel Ludlow laid out a town at Fort Hamilton. It was first called Fairfield.

DAYTON.

On the 3rd day of August, the treaty was concluded at Greenville between general Wayne and the Indians, by which the lands were ceded to the United States, from old Fort Laurens to Loramie's store, thence to Recovery, and thence to the Ohio opposite the mouth of Kentucky river. On the 20th, seventeen days after the treaty, governor St. Clair, general Wilkinson, Jonathan Dayton, and Israel Ludlow contracted with John Cleves Symmes for the purchase and settlement of the seventh and eighth ranges, between Mad river and Little Miami. One settlement was to be at the mouth of Mad river, one on the Little Miami in the seventh range, and one on Mad river above the mouth.

Two parties of surveyors set off on the 21st of September—Mr. Daniel C. Cooper, to survey and mark a road and cut out some of the brush, and captain John Dunlap to run the boundaries of the purchase. I went with Dunlap. There were, at this time, several stations on Mill creek: Ludlow's, White's, Tucker's, Voorhees', and Cunningham's. The last was eleven miles from Cincinnati. We came to Voorhees' and encamped.

In the morning, Mr. Cooper and his party proceeded with the road, and our party took Harmar's old trace, in company with a Mr. Bedell, who had a wagon with provisions and tools, and was going to make a settlement a considerable distance in advance of the frontier. [It was afterwards called Bedell's station, and was a few miles west of where Lebanon now is.] On the 23rd, we reached the line between the third and fourth ranges of townships, which had been run by captain Dunlap in 1788. On the 24th and 25th, run north eighteen miles, to the south boundary of the seventh range, and then run west

to the Miami, running here nearly south. The next morning our horse was missing. He had been well secured. We hunted for him all day, but never found him. The Indians probably had stolen him. On the 27th, we carried our baggage up to the mouth of Mad river. About thirty rods from the mouth we found a camp of six Wyandott Indians. We were a little alarmed at each other at first, but became very friendly. They gave us some venison jerk, and we in turn gave them a little flour, salt, tobacco, and some other small articles. At the request of one of them, I exchanged knives with him, giving him a very large one that I had carried for several years for his, which was not so valuable, and a deer-skin to boot. We had not been here long until Mr. Cooper and his party arrived.

On the 28th, some men from Kentucky, who had come with Mr. Cooper to view the country, went up the Miami bottom a mile or two above the mouth of Mad river, and found the weeds so high and the vines so thick they could not see the land, and became discouraged and returned to Kentucky. Mr. Cooper returned to make some alterations. We continued engaged in our survey until the 4th of October. We established the northern and southern boundaries of the purchase, and meandered Mad river and the Miami from the northern line of the eighth range to the southern line of the seventh, when we returned to Cincinnati.

On the 1st of November, went again to Mad river. On the 4th, Israel Ludlow laid off the town at the mouth and called it Dayton, after one of the proprietors. A lottery was held, and I drew lots for myself and several others, and engaged to become a settler in the ensuing spring.

April 1st, 1796.—Landed at Dayton after a passage of ten days, William Gahagan and myself having come with Thomson's, and McClure's families in a large perogue. During the preceding winter, two or three settlers had arrived here; several families had settled Hole's station, [where Miamisburg now is;] a few persons had settled at the Big Prairie, [below Middletown:] two had established themselves on Clear creek, and several were scattered about the country lower down. This spring a settlement was made by Jonathan Mercer eight miles up Mad river, another was made at the forks, called Chribb's station, another at the mouth of Honey creek, and another at the old Piqua on the Miami.

I raised a good crop of corn this year—in the meantime, flour cost me nine dollars a barrel and corn-meal a dollar a bushel in Cincinnati, and the transportation to Dayton was two dollars and a half per hundred weight.

On the 26th of April, 1797, I moved to Little Beaver creek, about seven miles from Dayton. I raised a crop here. On the 16th of October, I entered into an engagement, and started with Israel Ludlow and William C. Schenck, surveyors, to survey the United States military lands between the Scioto and Muskingum. Our district was about forty miles square, next the Scioto. Our route was past Columbia, Newtown, and Williamsburg to the falls of Paint creek, where we fell into Zane's road from Wheeling to Limestone, lately opened; thence to Chillicothe, another new town, settled by a few persons the season previous, thence by the Indian path up the Scioto to the forks, [where Franklinton and Columbus now are.] We had a deep snow covered with a crust, while we were engaged in our surveys, and could kill but little game. We were twenty-nine days without bread and nearly all that time without salt, and sometimes without very little else to eat. At one time, in five days we had but four meals, and they were scanty. When we got through, our company separated at the forks of Scioto, and three of us steered through the prairies for Dayton.

1801.—This year I took in the returns of taxable property in Dayton township, which was all the Miami country from the fifth range upwards. The number of free males over twenty-one years old between the two Miamis, from the south line of the township to the heads of Mad river and the Great Miami, was three hundred and eighty-two; west of the Great Miami twenty-eight, east of the Little Miami less than twenty.

B. Van Cleve

MR. TRIMBLE'S LETTER.

Hillsborough, March 28, 1843.

JNO. S. WILLIAMS, Esq.

Dear Sir—As your valuable and interesting magazine is devoted to the history of events and scenes connected with the early settlement of our country, I propose occupying your columns with a sketch of incidents, which were associated with the life of captain James Trimble, late of Woodford county, Kentucky. I am aware that the productions of those who participated in the toils and dangers of the times would be more acceptable and interesting to your readers; but,

alas! how few remains to tell the thrilling story, and sketch, with graphic pencil, the hair-breadth escapes and perils through which they passed, to secure to us the rich inheritance of peaceful and prosperous homes! In the absence, therefore, of more useful and interesting matter, I will present some reminiscences of the early settlement of the valley of Virginia, which I have not yet seen published.

Preceding the memorable conflict with the Indians called the "battle of the Point," the citizens of western Virginia were greatly exposed to the incursions of the savages, whose retreat was always well protected by the vast and interminable range of the *Allegheny*. To protect the inhabitants and to intimidate the Indians, the expedition of lord Dunmore, then governor of Virginia, was ostensibly projected in the fall of 1774. One division of this army, composed of volunteers from the counties of Augusta and Rockbridge, commanded by general Andrew Lewis, proceeded in a direct course for the mouth of the Great Kenawha river, where it was contemplated to form a junction with lord Dunmore, and penetrate into the North-west territory, (now Ohio.) In this arrangement general Lewis was deceived. Dunmore, having crossed the Ohio, advanced to the Scioto and retraced his march without meeting any hostile bands, and left general Lewis with his band of *provincials* to their fate. There were dark suspicions of treachery in this movement of the English governor, thus designing (on the eve of the Revolution) to cripple the energies of the Virginians.

The Indians, apprised of the unguarded position of general Lewis, had formed the design of surprising him in his encampment. History has given the result of that desperate contest; and never, perhaps, in the annals of savage warfare, was skill and indomitable courage more conspicuous than in the character and conduct of the celebrated Shawanee chief *Cornstalk*. He had crossed the Ohio during the night a few miles above Lewis' camp, and would have accomplished his object of a complete surprise, but was fortunately discovered by two men from the encampment, who had turned out for an early hunt. These men came directly on the whole band of Indians, pressing on to the attack. In their retreat one was killed, the other reached the camp and gave the alarm. The troops had not time to form any regular order of battle before the enemy were upon them. Some of the men were at first panic struck and astonished; but the heroic and gallant conduct of colonel Charles Lewis and his officers, rallied them, and the first deadly onset of the foe was met and sustained by as brave a set of men as ever encountered the fearful war-

whoop of the Indian! Then it was that "Greek met Greek," and the desperate tug of war was incessantly continued until darkness separated the combatants. The force on either side was nearly equal, and alternately, throughout the day, the whites and then the Indians retreated! the battle-ground being confined within the compass of half a mile. No decided advantage was gained by the whites until late in the evening, when the Indians began slowly a stubborn retreat, still faithfully protecting their women and youths, who were all day employed in removing their dead and wounded. It is said that captain (afterwards general) George Matthews, with his company, contributed, by a well planned and successful "*ruse de guerre*," to turn the fortunes of the day.

But your readers are doubtless familiar with this history, and I indulged thus far in noticing it, simply and in truth, that my *father* was *there*, a youth of eighteen; and I feel a personal interest and pride in speaking of it, perhaps as *tradition* rather than history. My paternal grandfather, James Allen, of Augusta, was also there; and in that wild and blood-stained battle-field, fell his young and gallant brother, Hugh Allen, a lieutenant of Matthews' company. Colonel Charles Lewis also fell on that field of his glory, one which his courage and gallantry contributed to win. His memory was long affectionately cherished by his soldiers and comrades. *Here* were citizen-soldiers and volunteers, mostly men of families, inured to hardship and dangers; and *sons* were there among them, emulating the heroic deeds of sires, and schooling themselves for future conflicts upon the "bloody ground" of Kentucky. They all had every incentive to mingle in deadly strife with the Indian. Relatives and friends had often been ruthlessly butchered in cold blood, their dwellings wrapped in flames, and women and children carried away into hopeless captivity!

Among those who had injuries to redress and vengeance to repay, was captain Trimble, the subject of this memoir. His father had settled at an early period, about 1750, on Middle river, in Augusta county, Virginia, then, and for many years subsequently, a frontier post. In 1770, my father, then about fourteen years of age, was surprised by a band of Indians and made *prisoner*, with a colored boy named Adam, while ploughing corn. The alarm was given to his father and family by the horses running off to the house; and suspecting the cause, the old gentleman proceeded with his gun to reconnoitre. The Indians, having tied and secured the prisoners and left them in charge of two or three lads, made for the house. On the way, passing through a strip of woods, they encountered my grand

father and shot him, taking his scalp. His wife made her escape from the house and concealed herself not far from it, witnessing the scene of the plundering and burning the premises. Her only daughter at home, Mrs. Estell, (mother of the late hon. Benjamin Estell of Kentucky,) was too unwell to attempt fleeing, and was made prisoner. While this was going on, the young *Spartans* were trying their skill at throwing their tomahawks at the sapling to which my father was tied, often just missing his head, and inserting the deadly steel deep into the tree.

The party having packed their horses with plunder, and mounting those on horses who were not able to travel, (among them Mrs. Estell,) made a rapid retreat from the pillaged settlement with six or eight prisoners. They traveled day and night until they reached the valley of the Green Brier river, and encamped at or near the famed "White Sulphur Springs." Thinking themselves safe from pursuit, (having made about one hundred miles,) they engaged in hunting, and were feasting themselves around their camp fires when, two days after, they were completely surprised by a party of fifteen or twenty men, under colonel George Moffit, (a half-brother of my father.) Dickson, the Indian leader, had just returned from the hunt, having killed a deer within a few yards of the cover of colonel Moffit and his party. They heard the fire of his gun, and the deer being mortally wounded was running towards the party, when one of the men threw up his hat, which turned it, and it fell after running about thirty yards. Dickson followed in pursuit, and having despatched it left for the camp. He then ordered my father to bring him some water, which being presented rather turbid and impure, he threw it into his face, saying he would tomahawk him if he did not bring it clear. Although a favorite with the Indian chief, who had adopted him as a son, he dreaded his wrath; and returning to the spring was cautiously waiting the "settling of the waters" to get it pure, when he was aroused by the sharp and clear ring of fifteen or twenty rifles. He at once suspected the cause and flew in the direction of the sound; believing it to be, as it proved, from the party of his relative, colonel Moffit. He was rescued.

Dickson at this moment was standing by Mrs. Estell, leaning on his rifle and giving directions about ruffling a shirt which she was making for him. He alone of his party escaped from the first deadly volley—they all, eight or nine men, measured their lengths around the camp-fire, either killed or mortally wounded. Mrs. Estell sprung to her feet and fled towards her approaching friends, taking the precaution to snatch up a tin vessel by her side and placing it for a covering

to the head. Dickson, who was madly bent on retaining his victim or for revenge, pursued with uplifted weapon, which was hurled, knocking the frail protection from her hands, but fortunately without injury. He was then almost directly confronting her brother, colonel Moffit, the foremost of the party, who received Dickson's fire unhurt, (his own gun being discharged.) The brave warrior then turned and fled rapidly, making good his retreat, though hotly pursued. The prisoners were all rescued.

The black boy, Adam, had concealed himself during the fire behind a tree, and being mistaken for an Indian was fired at by one of the men, and slightly wounded in the arm. He was but recently from his native Africa, and spoke but little English, and appeared well enough contented with his fate as a prisoner. On their march, Adam had one day disturbed a "yellow jacket's nest," just as his bare legged companions were filing along in the rear, who were peppered severely. This so pleased the simple minded negro that he was about repeating the fun, when he was fallen upon by the Indian boys and got a sound beating, to the amusement of the whole party. I have often heard Adam in his old days recount, in his Guinea dialect, this notable feat, and detail all the incidents of his captivity.

Colonel Moffit and his party returned to Augusta with the prisoners rescued, but not without encountering the defeated chief. Dickson had interrupted their retreat, and from a defile in the mountains fired upon and severely wounded one of the men, Mr. *Russel*. Russel was carried home on a litter, and recovered. He lived to encounter the formidable Dickson at the battle of the Point four years after; and was foremost in the fight until he singled out his victim, and hand to hand they fought till the struggle closed in the death-rattle of the *Indian*.

Dickson was a renegade half-blood Indian, and was well known to the settlers of Virginia, among whom he lived for several years, until hostilities broke out, when he joined a band of Shawanees, and became a formidable and desperate leader. He had often been to my grandfather's, and, to exhibit his character, after killing and scalping him, he presented the trophy to my father, saying, "*Jim*, here's the old man's scalp—do you know it? If you stay with me I will make a good Indian of you; but if you attempt to run off, I will have yours." He treated Mrs. Estell with kindness and respect, and never offered any insult, supposing that, in hopeless captivity, she would become his wife. He placed her on horseback, and traveled constantly by her side through the difficult passes of the mountains.

Her situation was most delicate and trying, but it was a source of consolation and gave some sense of protection, that her young brother was a companion of her sorrows. Her first child was born a few weeks after her return to Augusta. It is difficult to form any proper conception of the dangers and trials of that period, or to estimate correctly the heroism and fortitude of the "honorable women of those days, whose virtues are the richest and most cherished legacies left to their children."

The writer, traveling through Virginia a few years since, fell in with an old gentleman, Mr. Kinkaid, of Augusta county, one of colonel Moffit's party, who gave a very full and graphic history of the expedition. The difficulties, but success, with which they followed the Indian trail, often obliterated but as often regained by slight indications of the march, which would have escaped the notice of less experienced men. The last day of pursuit, when all hope was lost of regaining the trail, they found a small piece of Mrs. Estell's handkerchief, which had been with design cautiously fastened on a bush while traveling in the night. From that point they followed with elated spirits and full assurance of success.

In the year 1780 or 1781, my father emigrated to Woodford county, Kentucky, and was among the first settlers of that district. Game of every description was abundant, and supplied their frugal wants. The dense and impervious shades of *canebrakes* which covered that rich and luxuriant soil, was the lurking place of the bear, buffalo and elk; and upon these the emigrants subsisted until the wilderness was reclaimed and became fruitful fields. On one occasion, as captain Trimble was returning to his dwelling, after a ride exploring the country, he had a fearful encounter with one of these lords of the forest. In the narrow path through a canebrake lay a large tree directly across the track; he approached and attempted leaping it, but the horse refused. He was urging him over when a large she bear rose on her hind legs upright and clasped the horse in a deadly *hug* around the neck. Thus they were poised over the log, when my father threw himself from his horse, and, with his rifle, ever trusty and sure, he despatched the formidable tenant of the forest; thus adding largely to his burden of wild game.

After living to witness the peaceful settlement of that beautiful country, and rearing there a large family, captain Trimble visited Ohio, and made arrangements for moving thither, but died soon afterwards on the soil which he contributed to reclaim from the savage—a claim always contested by the tomahawk and rifle. That rifle which, in 1774, spoke eloquently its death-notes to the Indian, is

yet a substantial and trusty weapon, time-worn and rusty, but a prized relic of the days which tried men's souls.

Yours, very respectfully,



A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "J. M. A. Grindle". The signature is written in dark ink and features a large, decorative flourish at the end.

SIEGE OF FORT HENRY.

AMONG the most memorable events in border history, or indeed in the whole annals of savage or Indian warfare, may be ranked the battle of Fort Henry, at the mouth of Wheeling creek, in the year 1777. The bravery and perseverance of the little band that defended the fort against an assailing force, more than thirty times their superior in numbers, has often been portrayed by historians in the most glowing colors. Owing, however, to the difficulty of obtaining correct information on the subject, their accounts, as might be expected, are not without inaccuracies. It is much to be regretted that a full and detailed account of this interesting action, from the pen of some one who participated in its perils, has not been presented to the public. At the present day, there is not, it is believed, a single member of that Spartan band in existence. A few venerable old men who lived on the frontier, contemporary with the event, yet survive the ravages of time; but there is scarcely one among the number who has sufficient confidence in his memory to venture upon giving a narrative of the battle; and the only information derived from them has been elicited in the shape of answers to interrogatories propounded to them, with the view of testing, as far as possible, the accuracy of the different accounts of the siege which have heretofore been published. The public archives, although they throw but little light on the immediate transaction, furnish, in their records of collateral events, the means of correcting many of the errors into which historians have fallen. The following account of this interesting incident in the early history of the western country, is prepared from materials of an authentic character, which have been collected for the purpose with no inconsiderable labor. A few preliminary observations are given in regard to the condition of the north-western border previous to the battle, as they seem necessary to a proper appreciation of the subject.

Towards the end of April, 1774, a party of about one hundred persons, on their way from the Atlantic country to Kentucky, having concentrated at the mouth of Little Kanawha, received information that the Indians had assumed a warlike attitude, and were expected momentarily to commence hostilities upon the settlers. This news induced the emigrants to abandon the idea of proceeding farther on their journey at that time; and, on consultation with Captain Michael Cresap, who was engaged in opening a plantation in that vicinity, they determined upon going up to the mouth of Wheeling creek, regarding that as a convenient point to keep themselves advised of what was going on in the Indian country.

Soon after their arrival at Wheeling, a message was received from Dr. Connolly, the royal "captain commandant of the district of West Augusta," then on a visit to Fort Pitt, informing captain Cresap that a war with the Indians was inevitable, and begging him "to use his influence with the party to cover the country with scouts until the inhabitants could fortify themselves." In obedience to this request, reconnoitering parties were sent out in all directions, and the settlers proceeded at once to erect a stockade work near the mouth of the creek. This fort is said to have been planned by George Rogers Clark, (who was one of the Kentucky emigrants,) and was constructed under the superintendence of Ebenezer Zane and John Caldwell, both of whom had already made considerable improvements at the mouth of Wheeling creek. It was called *Fort Fincastle*, and served as a place of refuge for the settlers during the war which followed, and which was terminated, as far as a treaty could effect the purpose, in the fall of the year, by lord Dunmore, at camp Charlotte.

During the following year, confidence in the Indians not having been fully restored by Dunmore's treaty, the Virginia convention directed a garrison of twenty-five men, under a lieutenant, to occupy Fort Fincastle. This garrison was ordered to be increased to fifty men in 1776, but it is doubtful whether these requisitions were ever complied with. In the fall of 1776, three new counties were erected in the district of West Augusta, by the names of Ohio, Youghiogheny, and Monongalia. The justices of Ohio, taking into view the exposed situation of their county, proceeded at once to organize the militia, which work was completed in the early part of the following year; and on the 2nd day of June the several field and company officers, having received their commissions from the governor, appeared in open court and took the oath of qualification. The republican form of government having gone into operation, the name of Fort Fincastle was

changed to *Fort Henry*, in honor to the distinguished patriot who then occupied the executive chair of the commonwealth.

At this period, Ohio county was to all intents and purposes a military colony. Every able bodied man was enrolled, and kept in readiness to take the field at a moment's warning. The company rolls furnished the lists of tithables for county revenue; and colonel David Shepherd, the commanding officer of the militia, was himself the presiding justice of the county court, and became high sheriff, *ex officio*, during the year.

The convention of 1776, directed two companies to be raised in the new county of Ohio, to form part of a quota of "six battalions for the continental army of the United States." These two companies were to be commanded by captain John Lemmon and captain Silas Zane. The officers made a report of their progress to the "committee of Ohio county" on the 3rd day of February, when it appeared that they had only enlisted twenty men; and as no mention is made of these two companies in the subsequent records of the county, it is more than probable that their formation was abandoned at the time the new organization of the militia took place.

Perhaps the most extensive settlement in Ohio county in 1777, was on the waters of Short creek, and next to this at the mouth of Wheeling. Besides these there were a number of families at Buffalo creek, Beach Bottom, Cross creek, the forks of Wheeling, Grave creek, Fish creek, and Middle Island creek. There were block-houses at Beach Bottom, Cross creek, and Grave creek, together with a small stockade on Short creek in the course of construction, in connexion with the county buildings called the "court-house fort," or Vanmetre's fort; but Fort Henry was the only military work on this part of the frontier that was considered tenable in open war.

Fort Henry stood immediately on the left bank of the Ohio river, about a quarter of a mile above the mouth of Wheeling creek, and at a much less distance from the foot of the immense hill that rises with unusual boldness from the inner margin of the bottom land. Just beyond the lower line of pickets the high bench of ground, on which the fort was erected, terminates; and after an abrupt descent of about thirty feet another level commences, which stretches along with a uniform grade to the banks of the creek. Much of this lower bottom, particularly that portion next to the river, was cleared, fenced, and cultivated in corn. Between the fort and the base of the hill, the forest had likewise been cleared away; and here stood some twenty-five or thirty humble log dwelling houses, thrown together in the form of a village, which, though of little importance then, was the

germ of one of the fairest cities that now grace the domain of Virginia. The fort was built on open ground, and covered a space of about three quarters of an acre. In shape it was a parallelogram, having a block-house at each corner, with lines of stout pickets about eight feet high extending from one block-house to another. Within the enclosure were a store-house, barrack-rooms, garrison-well, and a number of cabins for the use of families. The principal entrance was through a gate-way on the eastern side of the fort next to the straggling village.

In the spring of 1777, the frequency of aggression on the part of the Indians, rendered quite certain a general outbreak would ensue. A number of savage forays upon the settlements took place in May and June, sometimes resulting in mere pillage of horses and cattle, but more frequently in the destruction of human life; and if the marauding parties at first succeeded in their designs, they were always pursued by the exasperated frontiersmen, and generally visited with deserved punishment. As the season advanced, these depredations became more frequent and were characterized with greater boldness; and so imminent was the apprehended danger, that the people threw aside their private pursuits, every man became an energetic soldier, the troops were constantly in service, all civil jurisdiction ceased from June until the following April, and martial law in undisputed power prevailed over the county. In the early part of September, it was ascertained that an immense Indian army was concentrating on the Sandusky river, under the direction of the notorious white renegade, Simon Girty. This scheming outlaw had almost unbounded command over the Wyandotts, and was so far influential with the Mingoes and Shawanees as to secure a large accession to his force from those warlike tribes. The Indian army was well appointed, having received an abundant supply of arms and ammunition from governor Hamilton, at Detroit. Girty himself was armed by this enlightened functionary with full power to grant protection, if he saw fit, to such of the settlers as might choose to swear allegiance to the British crown, and was furnished by the governor with a proclamation under his own hand guaranteeing the royal pardon to every rebel who would accept the boon which Girty was authorized to offer. The savage host, numbering, by various estimates, from three hundred and eighty to five hundred warriors, having completed every preparation for their campaign, left the Sandusky upper village and took up their line of march in the direction of Limestone, in Kentucky.

Ignorant and cowardly as many represent Girty to have been on the field of battle, he certainly possessed a degree of cunning when

not in the immediate presence of danger, which served to keep him high in the confidence of the Indians throughout the chief part of his military career. The manner in which he conducted the march of this army evinces the high order of his sagacity, and the craftiness of his management ; for, although colonel Shepherd keep constantly in service a body of the most trusty and experienced scouts that ever figured in border warfare, Girty succeeded in deceiving them as to the point of his destination, and actually brought his whole force before the walls of Fort Henry before his real design was discovered.

On the night of the 26th of September, captain Joseph Ogle, with a small scouting party, while on his return to the fort from an excursion up the Ohio, descried a faint but constant body of smoke rising in the air to the southward of Wheeling. Impressed with the conviction that the smoke was caused by the burning of the block-house at Grave creek, about twelve miles below, he hastened to the fort and mentioned the circumstance to colonel Shepherd, the commandant, who lost no time in despatching two men, in a canoe, down the river, to ascertain the truth. In the course of the night all the inhabitants of the village betook themselves to the fort for shelter and safety, and several families residing in the neighborhood were sent for and brought in before the dawn of day.

The garrison numbered only forty-two fighting men, all told. Some of these were far advanced in years, while others were mere boys. A portion of them were skilled in Indian warfare, and all were excellent marksmen. The store-house was well supplied with small-arms, particularly muskets, but was sadly deficient in ammunition.

At the break of day on the 27th, the commandant wishing to despatch expresses to the nearest settlements, sent a man, accompanied by a negro, out of the fort to bring in some horses, which had been turned loose the day before to graze on the bank of the creek. While these men were passing through the cornfield south of the fort, they encountered a party of six Indians, one of whom raised his firelock and brought the white man to the ground. The negro, seized with alarm, turned about and fled to the fort, which he succeeded in entering without being pursued or molested by the enemy. As soon as the negro related his story, the colonel despatched captain Samuel Mason, with fourteen men, to dislodge the six Indians from the cornfield. Captain Mason with his party marched through the field, and arrived almost on the bank of the creek without finding the Indians, and had already commenced a retrograde movement when he was suddenly and furiously assailed in front, flank, and rear, by the whole of Girty's army. The captain rallied his men from the confusion

produced by this unexpected demonstration of the enemy, and instantly comprehending the situation in which he was placed, gallantly took the lead and hewed a passage through the savage phalanx that opposed him. In this desperate conflict more than half the little band was slain, and their leader severely wounded. Intent on retreating back to the fort, Mason pressed rapidly on with the remnant of his command, the Indians following closely in pursuit. One by one these devoted soldiers fell at the crack of the enemy's rifle. An Indian, who eagerly pursued captain Mason, at length overtook him; and to make sure his prey, fired at him from the distance of five paces; but the shot, although it took effect, did not disable the captain, who immediately turned about and, hurling his gun at the head of his pursuer, felled him to the earth. The fearlessness with which this act was performed caused an involuntary dispersion of the gang of Indians who led the pursuit; and Mason, whose extreme exhaustion of physical powers prevented him from reaching the fort, was fortunate enough to hide himself in a pile of fallen timber, where he was compelled to remain to the end of the siege. Only two of his men survived the skirmish, and they, like their leader, owed their safety to the heaps of logs and brush that abounded in the cornfield.

As soon as the critical situation of captain Mason became known at the fort, captain Ogle, with twelve volunteers from the garrison, sallied forth to cover his retreat. This noble, self-devoted band, in their eagerness to press forward to the relief of their suffering fellow-soldiers, fell into an ambuscade, and two-thirds of their number were slain upon the spot. Sergeant Jacob Ogle, though mortally wounded, managed to escape with two soldiers into the woods, while captain Ogle escaped in another direction and found a place of concealment, which, like his brother officer, captain Mason, he was obliged to keep as long as the siege continued. Immediately after the departure of captain Ogle's command, three new volunteers left the garrison to overtake and reinforce him. These men, however, did not reach the cornfield until after the bloody scenes had been enacted, and barely found time to return to the fort before the Indian host appeared before it. The enemy advanced in two ranks, in open order—their left flank reaching to the river bank, and their right extending into the woods as far as the eye could reach. As the three volunteers were about to enter the gate a few random shots were fired at them, and instantly a loud whoop arose on the enemy's left flank, which passed, as if by concert, along the line to the extreme right, until the welkin was filled with a chorus of the most wild and startling character. This salute was responded to by a few well di-

rected rifle shots from the lower block-houses, which produced a manifest confusion in the ranks of the besiegers. They discontinued their shouting and retired a few paces, probably to await the coming up of their right flank, which, it would seem, had been directed to make a general sweep of the bottom, and then approach the stockade on the eastern side.

At this moment the garrison of Fort Henry numbered no more than twelve men and boys. The fortunes of the day, so far, had been fearfully against them; two of their best officers and more than two-thirds of their original force were missing. The exact fate of their comrades was unknown to them, but they had every reason to apprehend that they had been cut to pieces. Still they were not dismayed—their mothers, sisters, wives and children were assembled around them—they had a sacred charge to protect, and they resolved to fight to the last extremity, and confidently trusted in Heaven for the successful issue of the combat.

When the enemy's right flank came up, Girty changed his order of attack. Parties of Indians were placed in such of the village houses as commanded a view of the block-houses; a strong body occupied the yard of Ebenezer Zane, about fifty yards from the fort, using a paling fence as a cover, while the greater part were posted under cover in the edge of the cornfield, to act offensively or serve as a corps of reserve, as occasion might require. These dispositions having been made, Girty, with a white flag in his hand, appeared at the window of a cabin and demanded the surrender of the garrison in the name of his Britannic majesty. He read the proclamation of governor Hamilton, and promised them protection if they would lay down their arms and swear allegiance to the British crown. He warned them to submit peaceably, and admitted his inability to restrain the passions of his warriors when they once became excited with the strife of battle. Colonel Shepherd promptly told him, in reply, that the garrison would never surrender to *him*, and that he could only obtain possession of the fort when there remained no longer an American soldier to defend it. Girty renewed his proposition, but before he finished his harangue a thoughtless youth in one of the block-houses fired a gun at the speaker, and brought the conference to an abrupt termination. Girty disappeared, and in about fifteen minutes the Indians opened the siege by a general discharge of rifles.

It was yet quite early in the morning, the sun not having appeared above the summit of Wheeling hill, and the day is represented to have been one of surpassing beauty. The Indians, not entirely concealed from the view of the garrison, kept up a brisk fire for the

space of six hours without much intermission. The little garrison, in spite of its heterogeneous character, was, with scarcely an exception, composed of sharp-shooters. Several of them, whose experience in Indian warfare gave them a remarkable degree of coolness and self-possession in the face of danger, infused confidence into the young; and, as they never fired at random, their bullets, in most cases, took effect. The Indians, on the contrary, gloated with their previous success, their tomahawks reeking with the blood of Mason's and Ogle's men, and all of them burning with impatience to rush into the fort and complete their work of butchery, discharged their guns against the pickets, the gate, the logs of the block-houses, and every other object that seemed to shelter a white man. Their fire was thus thrown away. At length some of their most daring warriors rushed up close to the block-houses, and attempted to make more sure work by firing through the logs; but these reckless savages received from the well directed rifles of the frontiersmen the fearful reward of their temerity. About one o'clock the Indians discontinued their fire and fell back against the base of the hill.

The stock of gunpowder in the fort having been nearly exhausted, it was determined to seize the favorable opportunity offered by the suspension of hostilities, to send for a keg of powder which was known to be in the house of Ebenezer Zane, about sixty yards from the gate of the fort. The person executing this service would necessarily expose himself to the danger of being shot down by the Indians, who were yet sufficiently near to observe every thing that transpired about the works. The colonel explained the matter to his men, and, unwilling to order one of them to undertake such a desperate enterprize, enquired whether any man would volunteer for the service. Three or four young men promptly stepped forward in obedience to the call. The colonel informed them that the weak state of the garrison would not justify the absence of more than one man, and that it was for themselves to decide who that person should be. The eagerness felt by each volunteer to undertake the honorable mission, prevented them from making the arrangement proposed by the commandant; and so much time was consumed in the contention between them that fears began to arise that the Indians would renew the attack before the powder could be procured. At this crisis, a young lady, the sister of Ebenezer and Silas Zane, came forward and desired that she might be permitted to execute the service. This proposition seemed so extravagant that it met with a peremptory refusal; but she instantly renewed her petition in terms of redoubled earnestness, and all the remonstrances of the colonel and her relatives failed to dis-

suade her from her heroic purpose. It was finally represented to her that either of the young men, on account of his superior fleetness and familiarity with scenes of danger, would be more likely than herself to do the work successfully. She replied, that the danger which would attend the enterprize was the identical reason that induced her to offer her services, for, as the garrison was very weak, no soldier's life should be placed in needless jeopardy, and that if she were to fall her loss would not be felt. Her petition was ultimately granted, and the gate opened for her to pass out. The opening of the gate arrested the attention of several Indians who were straggling through the village. It was noticed that their eyes were upon her as she crossed the open space to reach her brother's house; but seized, perhaps, with a sudden freak of clemency, or believing that a woman's life was not worth a load of gunpowder, or influenced by some other unexplained motive, they permitted her to pass without molestation. When she reappeared with the powder in her arms, the Indians, suspecting, no doubt, the character of her burden, elevated their firelocks and discharged a volley at her as she swiftly glided towards the gate; but the balls all flew wide of the mark, and the fearless girl reached the fort in safety with her prize. The pages of history may furnish a parallel to the noble exploit of Elizabeth Zane, but an instance of greater self-devotion and moral intrepidity is not to be found anywhere.

About half past two o'clock the Indians put themselves again in motion, and advanced to renew the siege. As in the first attack, a portion of their warriors took possession of the cabins contiguous to the fort, while others availed themselves of the cover afforded by Zane's pailing fence. A large number posted themselves in and behind a blacksmith shop and stable that stood opposite the northern line of pickets, and another party, probably the strongest of all, stationed themselves under cover of a worm fence and several large piles of fallen timber on the south side of the fort. The siege was now reopened from the latter quarter—a strong gang of Indians advancing under cover of some large stumps that stood on the side of the declivity below the fort, and renewing the combat with loud yells and a brisk fire. The impetuosity of the attack on the south side brought the whole garrison to the two lower block-houses, from which they were enabled to pour out a destructive fire upon the enemy in that quarter. While the garrison was thus employed, a party of eighteen or twenty Indians, armed with rails and billets of wood, rushed out of Zane's yard and made an attempt to force open the gate of the fort. Their design was discovered in time to defeat it; but

they only abandoned it after five or six of their number had been shot down. Upon the failure of this scheme, the Indians opened a fire upon the fort from all sides, except from that next to the river, which afforded no shelter to a besieging host. On the north and the east the battle raged most fiercely; for, notwithstanding the strength of the assailants on the south, the unfavorableness of the ground prevented them from prosecuting with much vigor the attack which they had commenced with such fury.

The rifles used by the garrison towards evening became so much heated by continued firing that they were rendered measurably useless, and recourse was then had to muskets, a full supply of which was found in the store-house. As darkness set in, the fire of the savages grew weaker, though it was not entirely discontinued until next morning. Shortly after nightfall, a considerable party of Indians advanced within sixty yards of the fort, bringing with them a hollow maple log, which they had converted into a field-piece, by plugging up one of its ends with a block of wood. To give it additional strength a quantity of chains, taken from the blacksmith shop, encompassed it from one end to the other. It was heavily charged with powder, and then filled to the muzzle with pieces of stone, slugs of iron, and such other hard substances as could be found. The cannon was graduated carefully to discharge its contents against the gate of the fort. When the match was applied it burst into many fragments, and although it made no effect upon the fort, it killed and wounded several of the Indians who stood by to witness its discharge. A loud yell succeeded the failure of this experiment, and the crowd dispersed. By this time the Indians generally had withdrawn from the siege and fallen back against the hill to take rest and food. Numbers of stragglers, however, lurked about the village all night, keeping up an irregular fire on the fort and destroying whatever article of furniture and household comfort they chanced to find in the cabins.

Late in the evening, Francis Duke, a son-in-law of colonel Shepherd, arrived from the Forks of Wheeling, and was shot down by the Indians before he could reach the gate of the fort. About four o'clock next morning, (September 28th,) colonel Swearingen, with fourteen men, arrived in a periogue from Cross creek, and was fortunate enough to fight his way into the fort without the loss of a man.

About daybreak, major McColloch, with forty mounted men from Short creek, came to the relief of the little garrison. The gate was thrown open, and McColloch's men, though closely beset by the Indians, entered in safety; but McColloch himself was not permitted to pass the gateway. The Indians crowded around him and

separated him from his party. After several ineffectual attempts to force his way to the gate, he wheeled about and galloped with the swiftness of a deer in the direction of Wheeling hill.

When McColloch was hemmed in by the Indians before the fort, they might have taken his life without difficulty, but they had weighty reasons for desiring to take him alive. From the very commencement of the war, his reputation as an Indian hunter was as great, if not greater, than that of any white man on the north-western border. He had participated in so many rencounters that almost every warrior possessed a knowledge of his person. Among the Indians his name was a word of terror; they cherished against him feelings of the most phrensied hatred, and there was not a Mingo or Wyandot chief before Fort Henry who would not have given the lives of twenty of his warriors to secure to himself the living body of major McColloch. When, therefore, the man whom they had long marked out as the first object of their vengeance, appeared in their midst, they made almost superhuman efforts to acquire possession of his person. The fleetness of McColloch's well-trained steed was scarcely greater than that of his enemies, who, with flying strides, moved on in pursuit. At length the hunter reached the top of the hill, and, turning to the left, darted along the ridge with the intention of making the best of his way to Short creek. A ride of a few hundred yards in that direction brought him suddenly in contact with a party of Indians who were returning to their camp from a marauding excursion to Mason's Bottom, on the eastern side of the hill. This party being too formidable in numbers to encounter single-handed, the major turned his horse about and rode over his own trace, in the hope of discovering some other avenue to escape. A few paces only of his countermarch had been made, when he found himself confronted by his original pursuers, who had, by this time, gained the top of the ridge, and a third party was discovered pressing up the hill directly on his right. He was now completely hemmed in on three sides, and the fourth was almost a perpendicular precipice of one hundred and fifty feet descent, with Wheeling creek at its base. The imminence of his danger allowed him but little time to reflect upon his situation. In an instant he decided upon his course. Supporting his rifle in his left hand and carefully adjusting his reins with the other, he urged his horse to the brink of the bluff, and then made the leap which decided his fate. In the next moment the noble steed, still bearing his intrepid rider in safety, was at the foot of the precipice. McColloch immediately dashed across the creek, and was soon beyond the reach of the Indians.

After the escape of major McColloch, the Indians concentrated at the foot of the hill, and soon after set fire to all the houses and fences outside the fort, and killed about three hundred head of cattle belonging to the settlers. They then raised the siege, and took up their line of march for some other theatre of action.

During the investiture, not a man within the fort was killed, and only one wounded, and that wound was a slight one. But the loss sustained by the whites during the enemy's inroad was remarkably severe. Of the forty-two men who were in the fort on the morning of the 27th, no less than twenty-three were killed in the cornfield before the siege commenced. The two men who had been sent down the river the previous night in a canoe, were intercepted by the Indians and killed also; and, if we include Mr. Duke in the list, the loss sustained by the settlement amounted to twenty-six killed, besides four or five wounded. The enemy's loss was from sixty to one hundred. Agreeably to their ancient custom, they removed their dead from the field before the siege was raised; the extent of their loss is therefore merely conjectural.

The defence of Fort Henry, when we consider the extreme weakness of the garrison and the forty-fold superiority of the besieging host, was admirably conducted. Foremost on the list of these brave frontier soldiers was colonel Shepherd, the commandant of the fort, whose good conduct on this occasion gained for him the appointment of county lieutenant from governor Patrick Henry. The brothers, Silas and Ebenezer Zane, and John Caldwell, men of influence in the community, and the first settlers at Wheeling, are spoken of as having contributed much to the success of the battle. The name of every individual composing the little garrison ought to be inscribed on the pages of history; but several of them, it is feared, have so long slept in oblivion that they can never be recovered. Besides the names already mentioned, those of Abraham Rogers, John Linn, Joseph Biggs and Robert Lemmon must not be omitted, as they were among the best Indian fighters on the frontier, and aided much in achieving the victory of the day. The lady of Ebenezer Zane, together with several other females in the fort, undismayed by the sanguinary strife that was going on, employed themselves in running bullets and preparing patches for the use of the men, and by their presence at every point where they could make themselves useful, and by their cheering words of encouragement, infused new life into the soldiers and spurred them on in the performance of their duty. The noble act of Elizabeth Zane, which has already been related, inspired the men with an enthusiasm which contributed not a little to

turn the fortunes of the day. The affair at Fort Henry was emphatically one of the battles of the Revolution. The north-western Indians were as much the mercenary troops of Great Britain as were the Hessians and the Waldeckers, who fought at Bennington, Saratoga, and in New Jersey. If the price received by the Indians for the scalps of American citizens did not always amount to the daily pay of the European minions of England, it was, nevertheless, sufficient to prove that the American savages and the German hirelings were precisely on the same footing as part and parcel of the British army.

The siege of Fort Henry took place, agreeably to most accounts, on the 1st day of September, 1777. This is, doubtless, a mistake. In the order book of Ohio county court, in the proceedings of the court at the August term, 1789, it is recorded, that an application was filed for a pension, from Mary Ogle, widow of "sergeant Jacob Ogle, of captain Joseph Ogle's company of Ohio county militia, who was killed in actual service, September 27, 1777." This entry establishes the 27th of September as the day of the battle.

Geo. S. McKiernan

HISTORICAL REFERENCES FOR THE VALLEY OF THE
MISSISSIPPI.

—
BY J. M. PECK.

—
DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE.

(Continued from page 269.)

14. *Conquest of Illinois by Colonel George Rogers Clark, in 1778.*—This was one of the most daring and chivalrous exploits of the American Revolution. The original documents of this expedition are the journals of colonel Clark, copies of which were sent to the governor of Virginia; the original papers are in the depository of the Historical Society of Kentucky, at Louisville. There is also a journal by major Bowman in the same depository.

The principal facts of Clark's expedition may be found in Butler's *History of Kentucky*. In 1840, the writer of this article prepared and delivered a discourse on the 4th of July, in Belleville, Ill., containing the outlines of this "conquest." This discourse has been published in several newspapers, and other periodicals.

15. *A Topographical Description of the Western Territory of North America*; BY GEORGE IMLAY.—This author was a captain in the American army during the Revolutionary war, and, as he styles himself, “commissioner for laying out lands in the back settlements.” He spent several years in Kentucky, during which the main body of the work now before us was written in a series of letters to a correspondent in England. We have not the means of determining when the first edition was published, but think it must have been sometime between 1785 and 1788. The second edition, the one in our possession, was published in London, in octavo form, four hundred and fifty pages, 1793. This edition has an appendix, which contains the following very interesting articles, by JOHN FILSON.

“1. The Discovery, Settlement, and Present State of Kentucky, and an Essay upon the Topography and Natural History of that Important Country.

2. The Adventures of Colonel Daniel Boon, one of the first settlers, comprehending every Important Occurrence in the Political History of that Province.

3. The Minutes of the Piankeshaw Council, held at post St. Vincent, April 15, 1784.

4. An Account of the Indian Nations inhabiting within the limits of the Thirteen United States, their Manners and Customs, and Reflections on their Origin.”

This work of Filson, attached to Imlay’s work, was first published in 1784, and to it is appended the following :

“ADVERTISEMENT.—We, the subscribers, inhabitants of Kentucky, and well acquainted with the country from its first settlement, at the request of the author of this book [Filson] have carefully revised it, and recommend it to the public as an exceeding good performance, containing as accurate a description of our country as we think can possibly be given, much preferable to any in our knowledge extant; and think it will be of great utility to the public. Witness our hands this 12th day of May, Anno Domini, 1784.

DANIEL BOON,

LEVI TODD,

JAMES HARROD.”

The “Adventures of Daniel Boon,” purport to have been written by himself, as the first person is used. Boon, we know, was but a “poor scribe,” yet he was capable of writing legibly. His power of composition was superior to his penmanship. The “Adventures,” in style and description, are perfectly characteristic of Boon. He was calm, contemplative, and an ardent admirer of nature in the uncultivated wilds. We give the following extract as a specimen :

"This day, John Stewart and I had a pleasing ramble, but fortune changed the scene in the close of it. We had passed through a great forest, on which stood myriads of trees, some gay with blossoms, others rich with fruits. Nature was here a series of wonders and a fund of delight. Here she displayed her ingenuity and industry in a variety of flowers and fruits beautifully colored, elegantly shaped, and charmingly flavored; and we were diverted with innumerable animals presenting themselves perpetually to our view. In the decline of the day, near Kentucky river, as we ascended the brow of a small hill, a number of Indians rushed out of a thick canebrake upon us and made us prisoners."

The Indians, however, could not manage such a man as Boon. The seventh day of their captivity, Boon says, "in the dead of night, when sleep had locked up their senses, my situation not disposing me for rest, I touched my companion and gently awoke him. We improved this favorable opportunity and departed, leaving them to take their rest, and speedily directed our course to our old camp."

At a future time we intend to give the readers of the *Pioneer* a correct account of the life and character of this man, whom we knew in Missouri.

16. *Journal of Andrew Ellicott*.—This is a scarce and valuable work, especially for its exactness in determining, by a series of astronomical observations, the latitude and longitude of various points on the Ohio and Mississippi.

Mr. Ellicott was commissioned to examine and run the southern boundary of the United States adjoining that of Spain, which he executed in 1796, '97, '98, 99, and 1800. The work before us is a large quarto volume, containing the "journal," with "occasional remarks on the situation, soil, rivers, natural productions, diseases of the different countries on the Ohio, Mississippi, and Gulf of Mexico," six large maps, and an appendix containing all the astronomical observations in detail, are included in the book.

17. The next work deserving of notice is entitled, "*Sketches, Historical and Descriptive, of Louisiana*," by major AMOS STODDARD, of the U. S. army. Major S. took possession of Upper Louisiana, as Missouri was then called, in 1804. He spent about five years in Upper and Lower Louisiana. The "Sketches" evince great industry in collecting facts, and skill in arranging them. The author evidently was a gentleman of science, literature, good taste, and sound judgment. He was wounded at the siege of Fort Meigs, under general Harrison, May 1st, 1813, and died the tenth day with the lockjaw.

18. *A Tour into the Territory North-west of the Allegheny Mountains, made in the spring of the year 1803, with a Geographical and Historical Account of the State of Ohio*; BY THADDEUS MASON HARRIS—evinces industry, candor, patient research, and a mind devoted to science. It is confined chiefly to the state of Ohio and the shores of the Ohio river.

19. *History of the Expedition under the command of Captains Lewis and Clark, to the sources of the Missouri, thence across the Rocky Mountains and down the River Columbia to the Pacific Ocean, performed during the years 1804, 1805 and 1806, by the order of the Government of the United States.*

This journal was prepared for the press by PAUL ALLEN, esq., and published in Philadelphia, in 1814, in two volumes 8vo., and gives a vast amount of original intelligence of the "far west" at that period. An abridged form of the same expedition, in 12mo., was published in 1807 by Patrick Gass, one of the persons employed in the expedition. This is the earliest definite account we have of the Oregon territory.

20. We may here as well mention the *Voyage and Exploration of Alexander McKenzie, through the continent of North America to the Frozen and Pacific oceans, in the years 1789 and 1793; with an account of the rise, progress, and condition of the fur trade at that period.*—Mackenzie's first voyage, in 1789, was from Fort Chipewyan, latitude 58.40 north, longitude 110.30 west from Greenwich, at the "Lake of the Hills," through a branch of the lake to Pearl, or, as called by some, Slave river, and down that river and connecting lakes and rivers, a N. N. W. course to the ocean, which the party reached July 13th, latitude 69.14 north, and within the arctic circle, where the sun was seen at that season of the year for the whole twenty-four hours in succession. They returned the route they came and reached Fort Chipewyan, September 12th, 1789.

The second voyage was commenced at the same fort, and the party proceeded up Pearl river a west-south-west course to its source, and with much difficulty pass the mountain range, and enter a river that leads them a western course, and partly by water in a birch canoe and partly overland, the party reached the Pacific ocean, in latitude 52.20 north, on the 20th July. They returned the same season, after suffering great privations and hardships. These voyages were published in London, in two volumes, octavo, 1802.

21. *Schultz's Travels*, in 1807 and 1808, deserve notice, as exhibiting candor and a desire to be fair and impartial in his descriptions. Christian Schultz, jun., was from England, and passed through the

states of New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, and Tennessee, and the territories of Indiana, Louisiana, Mississippi, and New Orleans. He visited Illinois, St. Louis, the Missouri lead mines, and appears to have taken unwearied pains to be correct in his descriptions. His travels form a happy contrast with the British tourists in general at that period. They are contained in two small duodecimo volumes, with maps and plates. The edition before us is New York, 1810.

22. *Breckinridge's Tour in Upper Louisiana*, should not be overlooked as an interesting and valuable work in its day. This tour was made in 1809.

23. *Travels and Adventures in Canada and the Indian Territories, between the years 1760 and 1776*; BY ALEXANDER HENRY, ESQ.—This author was engaged in the fur trade, up to the lakes and to the north-western regions, for many years, and in 1809 compiled the work before us from his journal. The work was published in New York the same year, in one octavo volume, and contains the incidents and adventures in which the author was engaged, observations on the geography and natural history of the country he visited, with views of the society and manners of the Indians. There is much interesting matter in this volume.

24. *Harmon's Journal of Voyages and Travels in the Interior of North America*.—The author was a native of New England, and in 1800, when his Journal commences, he became a clerk in the "North-West Company," as the firm of McTavish, Frobisher, & Co. was styled, and at the expiration of seven years' service became a partner. His "Journal" was continued to August, 1809, when he returned to Vermont. It was prepared for the press by the Rev. Daniel Haskel, and published at Andover, Mass., 1820. The region of country he visited lay between the 47th and 58th degree of north latitude, and extending from Montreal nearly to the Pacific ocean. He gives a particular description of the face of the country, the manners, customs, laws and religion of the Indians and other inhabitants, with a copious vocabulary of the languages of the Knisteneux, Tacully, and other tribes.

25. *Volney's View of the Soil and Climate of the United States of America*.—C. F. Volney resided and traveled in the United States and territories from 1795 to 1798, and penetrated into almost every portion. He speculates and philosophizes extensively upon the geology, climate, winds, and other meteorological phenomena, the solar and lunar influence on the winds, diseases, &c. He also describes and speculates about the French colonies on the Wabash, which he

visited, and the American Indians. This work was published in France after his return, and translated by C. B. Brown, and republished in Philadelphia in 1804, in one volume 8vo.

26. *A Narrative of the Campaign against the Indians, under the command of Major General St. Clair.*—This book contains the "Narrative" of this unfortunate campaign of the general's, and various official documents intended to vindicate his conduct before the nation. It is a small octavo, and was published in Philadelphia, 1812.

27. *The Expeditions of General Z. M. Pike*, are contained in an octavo volume, accompanied by an atlas, and published in Philadelphia, 1810. General Pike's first expedition was to the sources of the Mississippi in 1805 and 1806.

His second expedition was in 1806 and 1807, up the Missouri river and, through the interior of Upper Louisiana, to the sources of the Platte and Arkansas rivers. The party, without knowing it, got into the province of New Mexico, was roughly treated by the government, and after being marched a long distance into the interior, at last obtained their liberty and returned to the United States.

28. *The Life and Times of General James Wilkinson*, in three volumes, 8vo., should not be overlooked as a source of historical information of the west.

29. *Adventures on the Columbia River*; By Ross Cox.—Mr. Cox was connected with the expedition sent out by John Jacob Astor, of New York, in 1811, for the establishment of Astoria and in the prosecution of the fur trade; and after the failure of the Astor enterprise, he united with the "North-west company," and continued in the Oregon country till 1817. These "Adventures" were published in an octavo volume in New York, 1832, and contain much valuable information on the soil, climate, and other facts of the Oregon.

In connection with this work, we name *Irving's Astoria*, in two volumes, 8vo., and the *Rocky Mountains, or Scenes, Incidents, and Adventures in the Far West*, compiled by W. Irving from the Journal of captain Bonneville, in two volumes. To these we add, *Memoir, Historical and Political, on the North-west coast of America and the Adjacent Territories*; By ROBERT GREENHOW, a United States Senate document, February 10th, 1840. *A Geographical Sketch of Oregon*, By HALL J. KELLY; *Journal of the Rev. Samuel Parker*, in 1835, '36, and '37; and *J. K. Townsend's Narrative of a Journey, &c.*, as furnishing complete and specific information of the Oregon territory.

30. *Travels throughout the Interior of the United States and Mexico, from 1808 to 1816*; By HENRY KER.—Mr. Ker was born

in Boston, Mass., but was taken by his father to England when a boy and raised in London. His travels commenced at Charleston, South Carolina, from whence he proceeds across the country to the French Broad river, and down the Tennessee to the Ohio and Mississippi; from thence to New Orleans, thence to the West Indies and back to New Orleans; ascends Red river to Nachitoches, and thence through the Indian country to Mexico. On returning through Texas, then a wilderness, the author falls into the hands of a band of robbers, is confined in a cave, his faithful servant (Edom) is killed, and his mules and property taken. He gains the good will of the captain, who liberates him in the night, and furnishes him with a purse of gold and a horse, and he reaches Nachitoches. From thence he proceeds through the Opelousas and Attakapas regions to the Chickasaw country, and reaches Nashville, Tenn.; thence to Knoxville, and a circuitous route through Western Virginia into Kentucky, and visited Lexington and Frankfort; then south through Alabama and the Choctaw country to Mobile, Florida, and round through Georgia and the Atlantic states to New Jersey, where he prepared his "Travels" for the press. The author says, "My propensity for a wandering life was very strong," of which we think he has furnished ample proofs.

31. *Drake's Lives of the Indians*, is a curious and interesting book, and should be in the possession of every one who desires to be acquainted with Indian Biography.

32. *Bradbury's Travels in the Interior of America*, in 1809, '10, and '11, contain much scientific and general information of Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri and other western regions. Bradbury was an Englishman, a naturalist, and deserves credit for his candor and impartiality.

MICHAUX (the elder and younger) and NUTTALL, as naturalists and explorers, have done much to develop the botany and other branches of natural history in the western valley.

33. H. R. SCHOOLCRAFT, ESQ., has been an industrious and successful laborer in developing the resources of the great West and adding to its stock of science and literature.

His first work, published in 1819, is "*A View of the Lead Mines of Missouri*," in an octavo volume. The work, however, includes "observations on the mineralogy, geology, geography, antiquities, soil, climate, population, and productions of Missouri, Arkansas, and other sections of the western country."

His *Narrative of an Exploring Expedition through the Upper Mississippi to the Itasca Lake*, its extreme source, in 1832, is a val-

uable work. His *Algic Researches*, or Tales and Legends of the Ogibeway Indians, are interesting and curious volumes.

34. *Darby's View of the United States*, should not be overlooked in our western historical collections.

35. *Birbeck's Letters from Illinois in 1817*, is a little work of some interest. But as many other European travelers at that period appear to have been delighted in giving frightful exaggerations of the inconveniences of western Americans, Mr. Birbeck evidently erred on the other side. Every thing in Illinois and the West appeared to him in the fairest colors and the most flattering aspect.

36. *Beck's Gazetteer of Illinois and Missouri*, compiled in 1819 and 1820, while the author was a resident at St. Louis, is an invaluable work of the kind, shows great research and patient industry in collecting a vast amount of original matter, and arranging it in a neat and scientific manner.

37. JAMES HALL, ESQ., is well known as an able and successful laborer in the field of western literature. His "Letters from the West," published some twenty or twenty-five years since in the Port Folio are sprightly, graphic, and original. As the conductor and editor of the "Illinois," and subsequently styled "Western Monthly Magazine," with "Legends," "Sketches of the West," and other works, he is too well known as a successful western writer to need further remark in this place.

38. *Recollections of the Last Ten Years, passed in Occasional Residences and Journeyings in the Valley of the Mississippi*, By TIMOTHY FLINT, was first published in 1826, and is a sprightly and valuable work of the kind. His "History and Geography of the Western Valley," appeared in 1832. These and other works of Mr. Flint are both valuable and indispensable to a library of western literature.

39. *The Expeditions of Major S. H. Long and his Corps*, the first up the Missouri, and the next up the Mississippi, the St. Peter's, Lake Winnepeck, and to the Red river colony of the north, with the notes of Messrs. Say, Keating, and Calhoun, contain a large amount of information concerning the regions they explored.

40. *Tanner's Narrative*, By DR. EDWIN JAMES, is an interesting account of the captivity and adventures of John Tanner during thirty years' residence among the Ogibeway and other Indians in the interior of North America.

41. *The History of Louisiana from the Earliest Period*, By FRANCOIS XAVIER MARTIN, in two volumes, 8vo., 1827, is an elaborate and sterling work. The reader will find in this work nearly

every fact pertaining to the early history of Canada and the American colonies, with much pertaining to the revolutions and changes of Europe, as well as the events of this western valley.

42. *The History of Kentucky*, By HUMPHREY MARSHALL, in two volumes 8vo. This work was commenced in 1812, but not printed till 1824. It is confined chiefly to the civil, political, and military history of the state. Unfortunately the author carried his political partialities into his historical sketches.

A History of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, By MANN BUTLER, ESQ., was first published in 1834. This is more connected and condensed than the one by Marshall, still neither are complete as a history of that state.

43. *Description of the Antiquities Discovered in the State of Ohio, and Other Western States*; By CALEB ATWATER, ESQ.—This elaborate work was a communication to the American Antiquarian Society, and published in the first volume of the "Transactions" of that society, 1820.

44. *The Natural and Aboriginal History of Tennessee up to the First Settlement therein by the White People in the year 1768*; By JOHN HAYWOOD, Nashville, 1823.—This is a curious and interesting octavo volume of four hundred and fifty pages, abounding in interesting facts and antiquarian lore. There is another volume, by the same author, containing the *Civil History of Tennessee*, which we have not seen. Judge Haywood, though a little eccentric, was a man of profound research and investigation.

45. *History of the Late War in the Western Country*; By ROBERT B. McAFFEE.—This volume professes to contain a full account of all the transactions in the western valley, from the commencement of hostilities at Tippecanoe to the termination of the contest at New Orleans on the return of peace; 534 pp. 8vo., Lexington, Kentucky, 1816.

46. *A Collection of some of the most Interesting Narratives of Indian Warfare in the West*; By SAMUEL METCALF.—This collection contains Boon's Narrative, and the Expeditions of general Harmar, Scott, Wilkinson, St. Clair and Wayne, with an account of the manners, customs, traditions, superstitions and wars of the Indians; 270 pp., 8vo., Lexington, Ky, 1821.

47. *Incidents of Border Life*, is a compilation of Indian adventure, accounts of battles, skirmishes and personal encounters with the Indians, together with the history of various captivities and escapes, and a great variety of historical sketches of the north-west. It is an octavo volume of more than five hundred pages, and well

worth the attention of those who delight in exploring our frontier history.

48. *Sketches of Western Adventure*, containing an account of the most interesting incidents connected with the settlement of the West, from 1775 to 1791, by John A. M'Clung, Maysville, Ky., 1832. This work contains substantially the same matter as is found in the "Incidents."

49. *Notes on the Settlement and Indian Wars of the Western Parts of Virginia and Pennsylvania, from the year 1763 until the year 1783, inclusive*; together with a view of the state of society and manners of the first settlers of the western country; by Dr. Joseph Doddridge; 12mo., Wellsburgh, Va., 1824. This is a curious and interesting little volume, especially as giving a most graphic picture of the "state of society and manners of the first settlers of the western country."

50. *Notes on the State of Virginia*; By THOMAS JEFFERSON, written in 1781 and 1782, should be consulted in connexion with western history. The edition before us is a small duodecimo; Boston, 1832. It has an appendix relative to the alledged murder of the family of Logan by colonel Cresap.

We have by no means given a descriptive catalogue of all the works deserving of attention, but such as are either in the possession of the writer, or with which he has had acquaintance. We hope that some one else will make the "Catalogue" more complete.

Yours, respectfully,

J. M. Peck.

MR. DRAPER'S LETTER.

We publish the following extract of a letter from our valued correspondent, Mr. Draper, now of Buffalo, New York, on account of its valuable information, enquiries, and suggestions. We presume he did not expect us to publish it.

Buffalo, New York, February 23d, 1843.

JOHN S. WILLIAMS, Esq.,

My Dear Sir— * * * You may be assured the "Pioneer" greatly exceeds my expectations. I used to say to my friends, five or six years ago, that could I have my wishes gratified, I would

have, at some central point in the great Mississippi valley, a magazine devoted to its early history; and, my dear sir, how rejoiced I am that my early fancied notion has been so happily consummated in your able periodical. I can find no fault in it, and if I could, my frankness would prompt me to point it out.

It does appear to me that you do not give *yourself* sufficient "elbow room;" and I would seriously suggest whether it would not be a decided improvement were you each month to devote one, two, or three of your last pages to editorial notices of your own. Here you could concentrate all your little items of pioneer news, new works published or in progress relative to western history, obituary notices of distinguished men of the West, and particularly of the pioneer fathers, chit-chats with your readers and correspondents, your prospects and success. Here, too, you could note doubtful points in western history, to the end that some of your many intelligent correspondents might throw light upon them. An instance of this kind just occurs to me. All the western historians agree that a noted Shawanee chief of the name of BLACK FISH was killed during colonel John Bowman's campaign of July, 1779, against old Chillicothe. Now your worthy correspondent, Thomas S. Hinde, says, on the 374th page of your first volume, that a Shawanee chief of the *same name*, who was the father of Tecumseh, the "INDIAN BONAPARTE," was living as late as 1798. Were there two Shawanee chiefs of the name of *Black Fish*? or, if but one, have not Marshall, Butler, McClung, Flint and others, erred in saying that this brave old chief was killed in 1779?

Again—could'nt you request, editorially, your correspondent, the Hon. George Darsie, of the Pennsylvania senate from the Pittsburgh district, to procure you a copy of colonel Burd's manuscript journal, to which allusion was made in the interesting history of "Redstone Old Fort," by James L. Bowman, esq.?

I have not, by any means, abandoned the idea of furnishing you a sketch of major Jas. Fontaine. I have obtained, since here, additional materials; and when you get it, which will not be as soon as I could wish, I hope it will contain something new and acceptable. I have concluded to re-write and send you my "Sketch of the Harpes," which appeared in the Historical Magazine, but sadly mutilated by blunders and omissions. I took very great pains in collecting the facts contained in it. The narrative is very plain, to be sure, but very minute, and I shall be *contented* with any disposition you may think proper to make of it. I am looking for some new Harpe matter from an aged Tennessee friend. When I get them I will speedily prepare

it for the pages of the "Pioneer." Have you any knowledge of the Harpes?

I intend, too, to furnish you an article on the death of Walter W. Butler, of whom you published a letter from the "Zodiac." I took notes, in 1838, of a conversation I then had with an octogenarian who was present at Butler's death. It differs somewhat from colonel Stone's version.

I am, with great truth, your friend,

Lyman C. Draper

FIRST SETTLEMENT OF KENTUCKY—SANDUSKY.

Cincinnati, March 15, 1843.

JOHN S. WILLIAMS, Esq.

Sir—We have received the American Pioneer, in which your correspondent, Mr. Green, (vol. i. p. 199.) gives some account of the origin of the name Sandusky in this country. Mr. Green is in the main correct, and, as respects the origin of the name, strictly so. He was, however, mistaken as to the family left by our grandfather. He left four sons and one daughter, who settled in different places; but the family has not much increased.

Our grandfather, Jonathan Sandusky, or more properly Sodowsky, came to this country, as we are told, in the reign of queen Anne of England, and landed and settled where the city of New York is now. He became an Indian trader, and lived at Sandusky, as stated by Mr. Green, but the time we know not. For some cause, not known to us, a dispute arose between him and the Indians, and on his way from Sandusky to the Potomac, in Virginia, where it is understood his family were stationed, he was killed in Virginia by the Indians, or, as was more generally believed, by some whites, on the credit of the Indians.

Our father, James Sandusky, came down the river in 1773, and again in 1774, with Hight and Harrod. In the first trip they went down as far as the falls, and returned. In the last they went down to the mouth of the Kentucky river, and up that stream to Harrod's station, where they cleared land and planted corn. This was the first improvement in Kentucky; but that settlement was broken up by the Indians. It may be worth mentioning, that these trips were both made in periognes or large canoes. In the second trip they encamped at the mouth of Deer creek, where Cincinnati now is. It is be-

lieved that they cut the first tree ever cut by white men on that ground.

Our father returned to Virginia upon the breaking up of Harrod's settlement. He then married and removed to Washington county, Kentucky, and built Sandusky's station, on Pleasant run, about the year 1776. In the same year, Harrod returned and built his station.

On the breaking up of Harrod's settlement in 1774, our uncle Jacob traveled to Cumberland river; he then got a canoe, descended the Cumberland, Ohio and Mississippi rivers, to New Orleans; from thence he came round, and at last got back to Virginia, *via* Baltimore. He is believed to have been the first white man that ever descended those rivers, except French or Spanish. He came out and settled at Sandusky's station with our father. From this station, he and our father removed across the Kentucky river and settled in Jessamine county, in about 1785. Our uncle lived here until his death, about ten years ago. He kept notes of the settlement of the country, and had great quantities of them. We are not sure that we can recover them from a printer who was to have published them, but did not. If we can get them, they shall be at your service for the Pioneer. He knew well the history of the first settling of the country, and always condemned, in many particulars, all the published histories, as he knew them to be incorrect.

Our father removed to Bourbon county about 1786 or 1787, where one of us now lives, on Cane ridge. His station was then the farthest east from Lexington, unless it might have been at the L. B. Licks or Kenton's station.

Isaac Sodowsky

Jacob Sandusky

It will be seen by the above, that the origin of the name Sandusky is fairly settled to be as Mr. Green represented. The Messrs. Sodowsky are twin brothers, as they say, and as any person would almost believe from their near resemblance of each other, even if they denied it. It is a little singular that two such different orthographies should be introduced between brothers. They told us that the occasion of Jacob altering the spelling of his name, was the misspelling of it in some land titles, which he chose to follow rather

than to hazard, by adhering to the proper orthography and pronunciation. In their respective neighborhoods they are known by names just as differently pronounced as they are spelled. This was to be expected.

MR. GARRETSON'S LETTER.

Locust Spring, 4th Month, (April,) 25, 1843.

J. S. WILLIAMS, EDITOR OF PIONEER—Having returned from my anticipated northern journey, I now purpose fulfilling my promise of furnishing some matter for the Pioneer; in the preparing of which, however, I am aware that it will be necessary to be very brief, leaving those readers who wish for a more extended account of William Penn and his government of Pennsylvania, to the perusal of the Journal of his life, written by himself, and to Clarkson's Life of Penn, &c.

William Penn, and the Early Settling of Pennsylvania; his Kind Treatment of the Natives, and the Effects resulting therefrom, &c. &c.

NUMBER I.

William Penn was born in London in the year 1644, being the only son of admiral William Penn, on the death of whom he inherited a considerable estate. In addition to land property, it appears that sixteen thousand pounds were due from government for *services* which his father had rendered as admiral, and for sums of money which he had advanced from time to time for the benefit of the navy. In lieu of this amount he wished to obtain land in America, and accordingly petitioned Charles the Second that letters patent might be granted him for the tract of land now known by the name of Pennsylvania. One of the objects which William Penn expressed in his petition as an inducement for the application, was, the promotion of the glory of God by the civilization of the Indians, and the conversion of the Gentiles, by *just and lenient* measures, to Christ's kingdom. In short, his motives may be summed up in the general description of them given by Robert Proud, one of his modern historians, and who had access to many of his letters, and who spared no pains to develop his mind in the most material transactions of his life. "The views of William Penn," says he, "in the colonization of Pennsylvania were manifestly the best and most exalted that could occupy the human mind; namely, to render men as free and happy as the nature of their existence could possibly bear in their civil capacity, and, in their religious state, to restore to them the lost rights and privileges which God and nature had originally blessed the

human race. This in part he effected, and by those means which Providence, in the following manner, put into his hands, he so far brought to pass, as to excite the admiration of strangers, and to fix in posterity that love and honor for his memory which the length of future time will scarcely ever be able to efface."

The petition of William Penn to the king was granted, and he was, by charter, dated at Westminster the 4th of March, 1681, and signed by writ of privy seal, made and constituted full and absolute proprietor of all that tract of land which he had solicited, and invested with the power of ruling and governing the same.

After obtaining the charter for Pennsylvania, he published some account of the province, and the conditions on which he would sell land; also the form of government, together with many regulations too tedious here to mention. But *one* regulation respecting the natives, being so intimately connected with my object in writing, I cannot consistently overlook. In order that the Indians might not be abused nor provoked, it was stipulated that all merchandize intended to be offered to them in barter for furs, &c., should previously undergo inspection; in order that if it was good it might be sold as such, but if not judged to be good it should not be sold as good. That if any white man should in any way wrong an Indian, he should suffer the same penalty for the crime as if he had committed it against his fellow-planter; and if an Indian should abuse, in word or deed, any planter of the province, that the said planter should not be his own judge in the case, but make his complaints to the governor of the province, or his deputy, or to some inferior magistrate near him, who should to the utmost of his power take care, with the king of the said Indian, that all reasonable satisfaction should be made to the said planter who had sustained an injury. And that all differences between planters and Indians should be settled by six planters and six Indians chosen as arbitrators, and thus prepare the way for living in harmony and peace.

These stipulations in favor of the poor natives, evinced that the mind of William Penn soared above the prejudices and customs of the age in which he lived. He regarded them as creatures endued with reason, as men of like feelings and passions with himself, as brethren both by nature and grace, and as persons, therefore, to whom the great duties of humanity and justice were to be extended, and who, in proportion to their ignorance, were the more entitled to his care. The condition and frame of government having been mutually signed, three ships full of passengers set sail for Pennsylvania, this year, to wit, 1681. William Markham went in one of those ships,

attended by several commissioners, whose object was to confer with the Indians respecting their lands, and endeavor to make with them a league of lasting peace. With this view they were enjoined in a solemn manner to treat them with all possible candor, justice, and humanity. They were also bearers of a letter to them, which Wm. Penn wrote with his own hand. The subject will be continued.

I remain, very respectfully, thy friend,

Joseph Garrison

MR. RENICK'S LETTER.

Indian Creek Farm, near Chillicothe, O., Jan. 23, 1843.

J. S. WILLIAMS, Esq.

Dear Sir—Your favor of the 5th inst., with the first volume bound, and the first number of the second volume, has been received. I am truly sorry to hear that you are so much discouraged in the progress of the Pioneer, and that you are fearful you will be compelled to stop. I hope this will not be the case, for I am induced to believe that if you can hold out another year, we shall have a change of times for the better. I hope your subscribers will not only pay promptly, but do as I have done, double their subscription and make use of other means in their power to get subscribers.

I shall detain this letter until I meet with a good private conveyance, and shall enclose a letter recently received from judge Weight, of Missouri, which will show you a part of what I have been trying to effect, but am sorry to say with poor success; they all sing about the same tune the judge does, though I hope he may yet be able to do something. I have written to him again, and requested him to write to "Old Zeke," as he calls him, and as he was commonly called twenty-three or twenty-four years ago, when I first became acquainted with him. He was then one of the most advanced settlers of the far west. We stopped with him several days to recruit ourselves and horses, after passing over the grand prairie between the Mississippi and the Missouri, where we and our horses suffered much from flies, and to get some provisions to serve on our intended journey still farther west. He was then living very comfortably on a good farm of his own, well improved in good frontier style, plenty of negroes to do his

farm-work, a wife, (a fine old lady to all appearance, who, we understood, had been a widow when he married her.) He was a man for whom nature had done a good part, both in mind and body. While there we were treated, both by himself and wife, with true pioneer hospitality, and, best of all, was entertained with a full detail of all his previous and early adventures in the far west, which was not only a great treat, but truly astonishing. Who would think that a man could, or would if he could, content himself to live six or seven years, as he did on his first adventure, at least one thousand miles from the face of a white man, in the gorges and defiles of the Rocky mountains, and the adjacent plains; surrounded, as he must have been, by the numerous tribes of Crows, Black Feet, Camanchees, and other savage, hostile, roving, marauding creatures, who are always on the prowl, seeking to plunder all that come in their way or their keen eye can discover? I again say, is it not wonderful that he could so long escape the vigilance of these hawk-eyed marauders? No other proof is wanting to show his sagacity, prudence, and vigilance. We could hardly have given credit to his story, had it not been corroborated by colonel Cooper, his neighbor at that time, a man of wealth and good standing, with whom we then formed some acquaintance, and who I have frequently seen since in my late trips to Missouri. Previous to receiving judge Weight's letter, it was my impression that I had heard that our old friend "Zeke" was dead, but I now find that he has followed the modern example of the pioneer, by pulling up stakes as soon as they get a little too much crowded by neighbors.

I shall now give you a brief history of judge Weight. He came to this state thirty odd years ago, with good clothes but a very light purse. He was introduced to me in Chillicothe, as wishing to teach a dancing school, and, in duty bound as a Virginian, in those days, I patronized him, and introduced him to Mr. Joseph Harness, my then near neighbor, of whom you have often heard me speak, who did likewise. At the expiration of his quarter in Chillicothe, Mr. Harness and myself employed him to teach a common school in a school-house on my place, in which capacity we kept him ten years. His urbanity and good deportment soon made him very popular in the township; he was elected a justice of the peace, and did most of the surveying business in the neighborhood, which was a great relief to me, as I had done it previously without charge. He soon acquired funds enough to enter a quarter-section of good land, and about the time his tenth year expired he married a sister-in-law of Mr. Harness, who had recently come from Virginia. She was a daughter of

colonel Vincent Williams of the S. B. of Potomac, with whom our old friend "Zeke" claimed a relationship, as well as with old Isaac and all the other Williamses that I then knew any thing of. Soon after marrying, judge Weight removed to Missouri, purchased land near Boonville, on which he is still living. There, as well as here, he soon became popular, was elected as justice of the peace, representative in the legislature, county surveyor—in the latter capacity, as well as judge of the court of that county, he still officiates.

His letter you will see develops one good trait in his character, in not forgetting his old patrons. I have been thus particular in giving you the character of judge Weight, that should he become a subscriber and furnish you with any matter for publication, as I hope he will do both, that you may know any thing he says may be relied on. I have requested him to get the outlines of "Old Zeke's" (or captain Williams, as we called him,) stories, and write them out; as I do not suppose the old captain could now do it as well as it should be done, and I know judge Weight could do it better than I can. I have, however, written out the captain's last adventure after wild horses, but have been waiting for some particulars of the first adventure, as that should appear first; but I hope Mr. Weight will relieve me from writing either.

I regretted seeing my last communication in your last number, as I supposed I would be able to make it perhaps better and more correct. On reading it I the more regretted it, in consequence of a mistake in leaving out the word "south," in describing the location of Lewis' camp. By a reference to the manuscript, you will find that the camp was situated on Congo, about two and a half miles *southeast* of Wm. Renick's house, at least this is the way it should read; in place of which it reads two and a half miles east, &c. Now this reading entirely misplaces Lewis' camp, and he could as easily have went to the Indian town near Renick's house, as to the point where this incorrect reading places the camp; and by which it would also appear that Lewis intended to evade the towns by leaving them two miles and a half to his left. Now any one that had the least knowledge of Lewis' character, as well as those who had any knowledge of the location (of which there are many,) of Lewis' camp and Renick's house, would naturally conclude that I knew nothing of the subject matter on which I was writing. You will of course correct the mistake, let it have originated where it may, as soon as convenient.

You will please return judge Weight's letter, after reading it, by private conveyance, when it offers; and I shall be happy to hear from you as often as convenient. If your publication continues, you may

expect another communication shortly from Jno. Renick; I have been aiding him a little, and it is nearly ready.

Yours, with respect,

John Renick

The above letter would have been published months ago, but we waited the reception of other promised documents not yet received, which would, to the eye, have corrected the error spoken of, which appears in vol. ii. p. 38. We still hope to receive from Mr. Renick, the valuable documents he promises. "Old Zeke" is a brother of Isaac Williams, of whom we gave a biography in our first volume from the pen of Dr. Hildreth. In old Zeke's lone-some trapping expedition, mentioned by Mr. Renick, he made a fortune, which he now enjoys.

In respect to our discouragements in relation to the Pioneer, Mr. R. has pursued the right course. If other friends would do the same, it would increase our energies and, of course, the interest and usefulness of the work. But while the American people, especially of the west, look upon it and treat it as a publication of little importance, and let the first effect of hard times erase their names from our subscription lists, it is to be expected that we will become embarrassed and eventually fail, with little prospect of retrieving our injured circumstances. Are we to have a publication, into which our early history can be collected, and through which the pioneers can readily speak? or, shall the jaws of death, or the rats and moths on their shelves, destroy what remains? Let our friends and patrons answer this question.

COLONEL McDOWELL.

Warren County, Mo., May 8, 1843.

J. S. WILLIAMS, Esq.—You mention a general McDowell of Hillsborough, O., who complains that I have done his uncle, colonel McDowell, great injustice, by stating that he was not in the battle of King's Mountain. I should regret to do injustice knowingly to any one, but if colonel McDowell was in the battle, or even in the army, from the time that colonel Campbell took the command till we were discharged from it, he must have been invisible to me and my associates. Major McDowell was in the battle and with us the whole expedition, and was respected by all with whom I had communication, as a brave, efficient officer. I know of no one now living who was in that battle to whom I could refer to strengthen my evidence. Yours, &c.,

Benj. Sharp

MR. WHITTLESEY'S LETTER.

THE following is just the thing for a periodical, "devoted to the truth and justice of history." We hope for much more from the same source. Shall any thing that is true be kept back lest readers will not believe? Forbid it, Clio! We hope the sufferings and incidents of the last, as well as the first war, will be told in the Pioneer. Let the tale be told—full credit will be given to our correspondents.

—
Washington, D. C., May 2nd, 1843.

SIR—I have just noticed the article signed "Clio" in the Pioneer, vol. ii. number iv. p. 174. The writer having informed you, he arrived at Point Pleasant, at the mouth of the Great Kenawha, Virginia, in the winter of 1813, proceeds to say, "After I had been there about a week, the Petersburg volunteers arrived on their way to relieve Fort Meigs, then besieged by the British and Indians." You will be pleased to excuse me for correcting "Clio's" statement. The goddess of History should be scrupulously accurate.

He undoubtedly saw the Petersburg volunteers in December, 1812, at Point Pleasant, and he may have kept them at bay and put them to shame after having called them scoundrels, as he gives you to understand he did, by his firmness, defiance, and soldier-like bearing; but he is incorrect in saying the company volunteered to relieve Fort Meigs, and that it was then besieged by the British and Indians.

General Winchester was defeated at the River Raisin on the 22nd of January, 1813. General Harrison retreated from the Rapids of the Maumee, after hearing of this defeat, on the 23d of January, and encamped the same evening at the crossing of the Portage, or Carrying river, on the road cut out by general Hull the previous summer.

The erection of Fort Meigs was not then contemplated. During the march on the 23d, general Harrison addressed the troops, and informed them that he fell back to cover the artillery, ammunition, and provisions that were being sent to the north-west army, to concentrate and unite with the troops then on their march; which could not be effected if he remained on the west (or north) side of the Maumee, if the ice should be removed by a freshet. He assured them that in two weeks at farthest he would return, and, if practicable, invade Canada during the winter. He said nothing about building a fort, and he had been encamped on the opposite side of the river from where Fort Meigs was afterwards erected.

The Petersburg volunteers were in Chillicothe on the 22nd of December, 1812, which, of course, was after they were at Point Pleasant. I encamped with them on the ground, or in the mud, in the Maumee swamp, during the night of the 26th of January, 1813, (I think—I have no memoranda with me,) five miles, or thereabouts, from general Harrison's camp. They marched that day between three and five miles, and a part of them did not arrive until dusk. They probably reached general Harrison the next day at the Portage river. This is not the time nor the place to describe the difficulties they and the other troops encountered and the privations they suffered during that campaign, and but few of the present generation would believe the facts if they were stated.

I was absent under orders from Harrison, from the 26th of January to the 9th of February, and do not, therefore, know how long general Harrison was absent from the Maumee; but I believe from ten to fourteen days. He commenced to build Fort Meigs after his return.

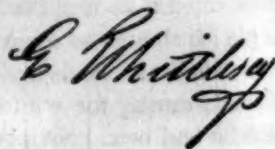
Having returned to camp from Chillicothe on the 9th of February, and learning an expedition was ordered to march on the ice down the river to attack an Indian force at Presq'isle, if found there; I took a fresh horse and resumed my duties in general Perkins' staff. In that march I saw captain McRea and company. Fort Meigs was then being constructed. General Perkins' command having served their tour of duty, were discharged the latter part of March.

On the 26th of April the enemy first made their appearance before Fort Meigs. Some Indians crossed the river in rear of the fort on the 27th.

During the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd of May, the enemy opened their batteries, and kept up an incessant and tremendous fire. The siege was raised on the 9th of May.

The Petersburg volunteers were favorably mentioned by the commander-in-chief during their tour of service, and they must have had their nerves much strengthened, for when they were at Cleveland on their return home, they would not have suffered "Clio" to call them "scoundrels," with impunity.

Very respectfully, yours,



JNO. S. WILLIAMS, Esq.

GOVERNOR McARTHUR.

WHEN this gentleman, in his youthful days, first visited the western country, he stopped some time at Baker's station, a small stockaded work, on the eastern bank of the Ohio river, about twenty miles below Wheeling. War existing at the time with the Indians, the settlers about Fish creek were occupying the station for security; but owing to the long continued absence of the enemy from that section of the country, the discipline at the works had become so much relaxed, that the inmates were permitted to go and come when they pleased.

Perhaps the most interesting object at the place was a young lady of extreme beauty, who had acquired, in connection with the usual accomplishments of her sex, a great proficiency in the art of shooting with the backwoods rifle. I think her name was Scott; that is my impression, but it may have been Baker. Early one morning she went to the run, some fifty or sixty yards above the post, for the purpose of washing linen, taking her gun along to prepare herself for any emergency that might happen, and young McArthur, in the spirit of ancient chivalry, accompanied her, to stand guard while she was employed at the wash-tub. Before they had been out a great while, a small dog that was with them commenced barking, and gave such manifestations of alarm, that the young lady desired her companion to make a hasty reconnoissance of the adjacent grounds. The motions of the dog had awakened in her mind a slight fear that Indians might be lurking close by; but McArthur, after walking about a few paces, discovered nothing to confirm the suspicion. The washing was thereupon resumed, and in due course completed; after which they both returned in company to the station. Just as they were about to enter the gate, a tall, athletic looking Indian sprang from behind a tree not more than thirty paces beyond the spot at which they had been washing, and darted off with amazing rapidity into the woods. A pursuit was instantly made, but the red skin was not overtaken.

This Indian must have posted himself behind the tree during the previous night, and doubtless with the intention of shooting the first person that ventured out of the works in the morning. The appearance of *two*, however, disconcerted his plan, and he found himself constrained, by a regard for his own safety, to keep close behind the tree during a great part of the day. Mr. McArthur's gallantry on this occasion was the means of saving the young lady's

life; for had she gone out unattended, she would in all probability have been killed.

Geo. S. McKiernan

GOVERNOR TIFFIN'S LETTER.

Chillicothe, August 31st, 1804.

Dear General—I have just received yours of the 28th inst. enclosing the returns of general Findlay's election, and herewith you will receive his commission. I am glad to hear you are now nearly completing your very laborious task of organizing your division. Do pray push forward with the same zeal and industry you have uniformly manifested until it is completed. If you knew the trouble and plague I have with the other divisions you would pity me, and —

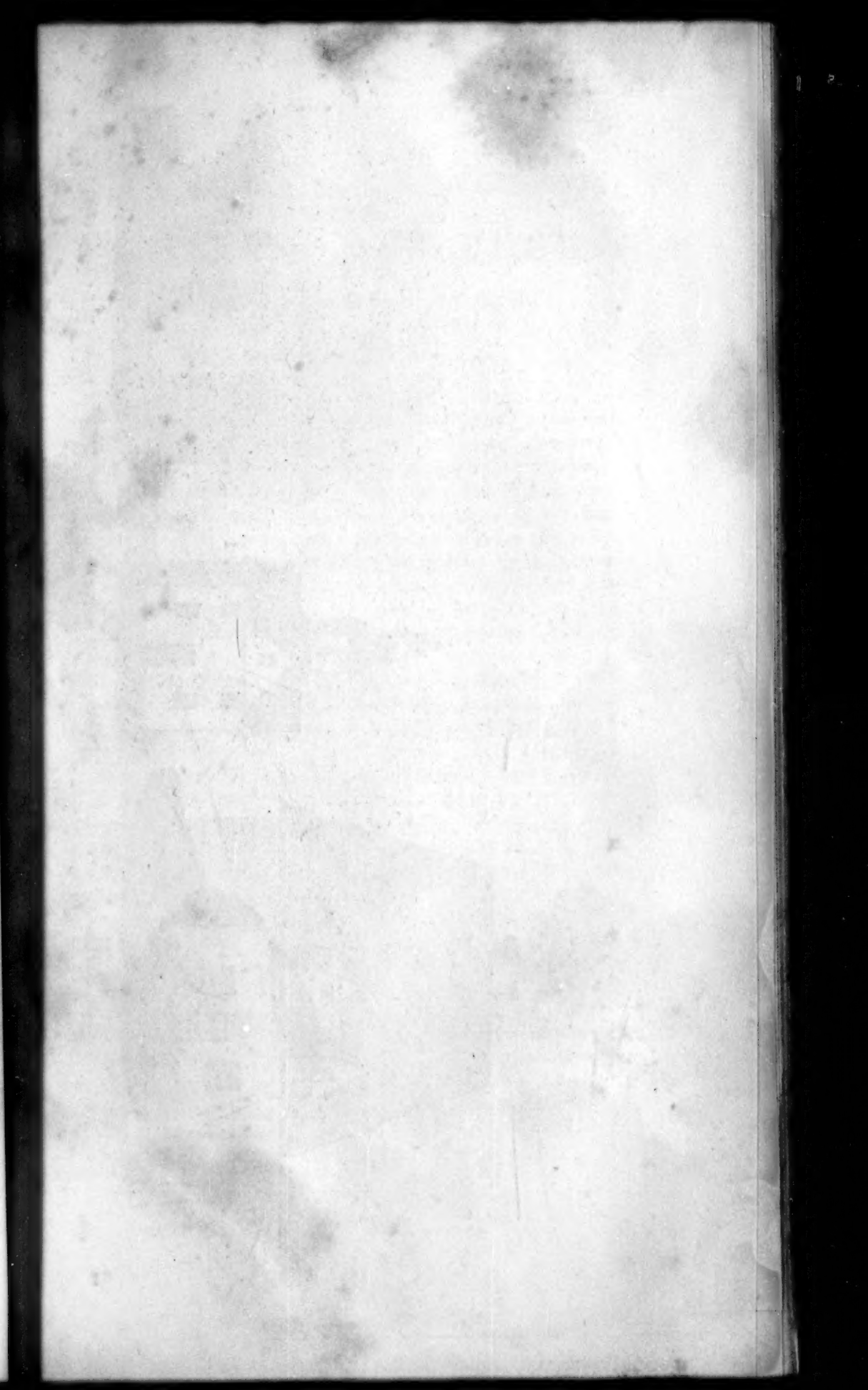
Yours, very respectfully,

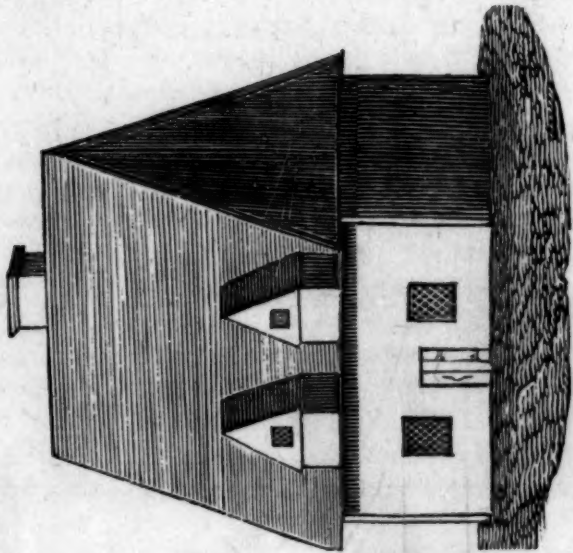
Edward Tiffin.

General GANO.

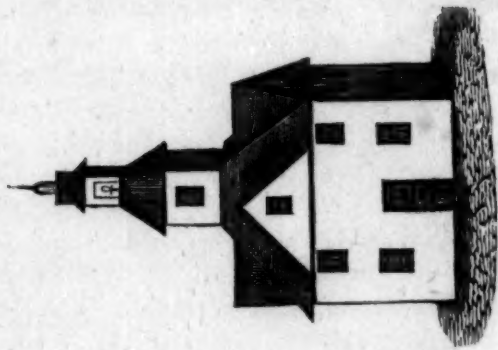
AMERICAN CHRONOLOGY.

1643. Anne Hutchinson and some of her followers, who fled from persecution in Massachusetts and settled near the Dutch at Manhattan, are attacked by a party of Indians, who murder sixteen whites, among whom is Mrs. Hutchinson herself.
1644. April 18—Second Indian massacre in Virginia, in which about three hundred whites are killed.
- The legislature of Massachusetts divided into two houses, after numerous broils and discontents between the representatives and council for supremacy, while together.
- War against the Indians in Virginia breaks out in consequence of the massacre, and Opechancanough taken prisoner, and shot without orders.
1645. Roger Williams obtains a charter for Rhode Island. He is employed by the Narragansetts to aid them in making peace with the English at Boston, which is effected.

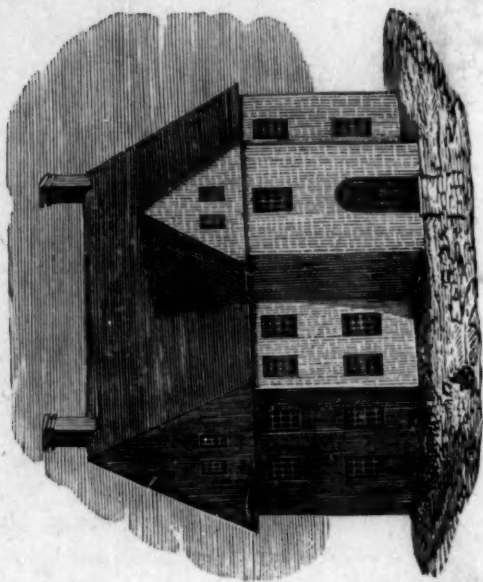




[Stebbin's house.]



[West Springfield Meeting House.]



[The Pyncheon House, erected 1660.]